The Village of Lindenhurst, in its on-going efforts to aggressively seek out grants, is one of 26 public agencies from northern Illinois to receive an environmental grant from the ComEd and Openlands through the annual ComEd Green Region Program. The Village of Lindenhurst has received $9,000 for the project, which will enable public access to Lake County Forest Preserve District’s Hastings Lake preserves via a connective trail on Hazelwood Drive. This pathway bordered by native plants, will not only enhance the community; but by extending the forest preserve’s green corridor, will benefit pollinators, birds and wildlife.

“Receiving the ComEd and Openlands grant will help Lindenhurst continue to place the finishing touches on the connection trail project to Hastings Lake Forest Preserve. We’re looking forward to seeing the positive impact that the ComEd Green Region Program grant has on our local environment,” said Mayor Dominic Marturano.

The Village of Lindenhurst is committed to using ecological landscape principles to create attractive native plant combinations, which in turn creates greater biodiversity and enriches wildlife habitat. Through programs such as this Hastings Lake Butterfly Path, the Village hopes to leave a lasting impression among residents to take part in creating a more sustainable future.

Construction of the Hastings Lake Butterfly Path started this fall. With the varied availability of the native plants, landscaping will not be completed until fall 2020. The pathway itself, however, is open to the public, once safe to do so.
From the Mayor’s Desk
Season of Thanksgiving

As I write this article for the November and December edition, it brings to mind the holiday season—a season of giving thanks.

In no particular order, these are some items for which I am thankful:

• The Millburn Bypass is open! Goodbye Millburn Strangler.
• Our Veterans. I will be attending the Lake County Honor Flight #17 “Welcome Home” ceremony today to personally thank 23 local veterans for their service to our nation. I will also be at the Village’s annual Veterans Day ceremony to thank our servicemen and women.
• Our First Responders, who put themselves in harm’s way every day and help us when we need help the most.
• Our Village employees, who are very passionate and dedicated.
• Our Village Board, who are respectful of everyone’s opinions, and continually strive to do what’s best for our community.
• Our local business owners, for investing in Lindenhurst.
• My family and friends. If you know them - no further explanation needed!
• My health. I hope I don’t jinx anything, but after a broken foot in 2017 and a total hip replacement in 2018, it has been nice to not visit an ER or hospital this year.
• The opportunity to serve on 2 additional Boards with very knowledgeable and dedicated Mayors and Executive Directors - the Lake County Municipal League (LCML) and the Central Lake County Joint Action Water Agency (CLCJAWA).
• Your confidence in me as being your elected official! I’m very proud to represent you and this great community of ours.

Wishing you all a very Happy Thanksgiving, Chag Urim Sameach, Merry Christmas, Kwanzaa Blessings, and a Safe and Joyous New Year!

Doni Martin

The Dangers of Feeding Wildlife

It’s hard to resist feeding the wildlife, but please don’t — for their health and your safety. Native animals need nature’s diet to be healthy, not human “junk food”. Well-intentioned handouts may cause disease, injury, and even death for the animals. Providing food causes them to become dependent on your offerings, and may result in aggressive behavior. It also encourages wildlife to congregate in large numbers; leading to territorial fighting, spreading of disease/viruses, and attracting their predators, such as coyotes, into our neighborhoods. Animals you feed today may be killed as “pests” tomorrow.

Don’t harm wildlife with your kindness; help them remain healthy and safe.

Keep Your Cats Indoors

Aside from our Village Ordinance prohibiting cats (and dogs) from running-at-large, there are a multitude of reasons why cat owners should keep their pets indoors:

CAR ACCIDENTS

According to the National Traffic Safety Administration, 5.4 million cats are hit by cars each year in the United States. More cats are killed annually than euthanized in U.S. shelters. And getting hit isn’t the only car hazard. In cold weather, cats seek heat, and slinking under a car hood can be a feline version of an electric blanket — until an unknowing driver starts the car.

TOXINS & POISONS - A few licks of sweet-tasting antifreeze can kill a cat, unless it’s a pet-safe product. Cats can travel through lawns and nibble on plants treated with pesticides, or that are toxic. Eating rodents that have ingested rodent poison can also kill a cat.

DISEASES & PARASITES - Feline AIDS, Leukemia, Distemper, upper respiratory infections, skin cancer; flea, ticks, heartworm, ear mites, ringworm and other internal parasites can be spread by mosquitoes or contact with other wildlife.

WILDLIFE DANGER - Coyotes, foxes, wolves, birds of prey, all present a risk to cats.

NEIGHBORHOOD NUISANCE - Gardens used as litterboxes, scratches on cars, spraying of property all impact on the quality of life within your neighborhood.

KILLING BIRDS - Loose cats are estimated to kill 2.4 billion birds each year. Birds are especially at risk around homes with feeders and birdbaths.

ANIMAL CRUELTY - Sadly, people have been known to shoot cats with BB guns or arrows, poison, or kill them in the name of “sport”.

LIFESPAN - Outdoor cats live an average of only 2 to 5 years, versus indoor cats which live to 17 years or more. Additionally, a healthier cat means less of an impact to your wallet.

So please be a responsible pet owner. Your cat, as well as your neighbors, will be extremely grateful.
Linden Notes

Landscape Collection Through Nov. 25
Landscape waste collection with the Village’s contracted waste hauler, Groot, runs through November 25th. Landscape waste includes grass, shrubbery, small tree limbs and weeds. Sticker service: Each sticker is $3.30 and one must be affixed to each 35-gallon container or Kraft bag placed curbside each week. There is no limit to the number of containers that may be placed curbside with sticker service. Subscription service: This service is $155 annually. Residents may place up to four 35-gallon containers or Kraft style bags curbside each week; any additional containers would require a sticker. Stickers can be purchased at the following locations: Groot’s website (www.groot.com), at Walgreen’s (399 S. Rte. 45), Butera Finer Foods (1500 E Grand Ave) or Village Hall (2301 E Sand Lake Rd). For more information, please contact Groot at (847) 693-2700.

Special “2 for 1” Leaf Program
Groot will offer a special “2 for 1” leaf disposal program through November 25, where one sticker is good for the disposal of two parcels of leaves. Leaves must be placed in 35-gallon biodegradable yard waste bags. Residents with subscription service can dispose of six bags instead of four.

Utility Bill Payment Options
Residents can take advantage of the Village’s online utility bill system at no additional cost. Residents can use the My Utility Account to pay or view their utility bill. To register, visit www.lindenhurstil.org and select the link “pay utilities” on the homepage. Visa, Mastercard and Discover credit cards are all accepted. To receive paperless billing through the e-bill program, contact the Village Hall at (847) 356-8252. Or, residents can download the Village of Lindenhurst app on iTunes or Google Play.

Tree Replacement Program
The Village offers a program to assist residents who wish to plant a tree. Under this 50/50 tree replacement program, the Village will reimburse residents who wish to purchase a new tree for their property or parkway area. The program parameters are as follows:
- Residents will be reimbursed 50% of the cost of a single, acceptable tree, excluding sales tax, delivery, installation, etc. up to $200
- Program dollars would be dispersed by the Village to the homeowner after the purchase and planting of a new tree
- Households could participate once per year
- Residents can submit a receipt to Village Hall for reimbursement
- First come, first serve basis as budgeted funds are available
- A list of acceptable trees is available on the Village website at www.lindenhurstil.org.

VILLAGE CODE REMINDER: Snowmobile Regulations
- Snowmobiles can only be operated on private property with the permission of the owner.
- Snowmobiles are not permitted on any public right of way or roadway, school grounds, Village or Park District property.
- Special rules apply for Lake Linden and snowmobile equipment requirements. Please call the Village Hall at (847) 356-8252 for more information.

Winter is (Almost) Here...
Which means it’s time to remove snow. Please remember that the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) plows Grand Avenue and Route 45, and the Lake County Department of Transportation plows Sand Lake, Golden and Grass Lake roads. All other public roads in Lindenhurst are maintained by Village snow removal crews.

Snowfall parking restrictions: To assist our snow plow crews, there is no parking on any Village street when there is 1” or more of accumulated snow. The restriction applies until the streets have been cleared of snow. Violators may be towed. And please don’t deposit additional snow onto the roadway from your shoveling or snow-blowing efforts. Following this procedure allows snow plow operators to quickly and efficiently remove snow.

Road Hazards: Though basketball nets are never allowed adjacent to our roadways, they pose a particular hazard to our plow drivers as they clear our streets. Please store them appropriately year around. Also, remove garbage/recycling cans from the end of your driveway ASAP.

Holiday Reminders
In observance of upcoming holidays, Village Hall will be closed on the following dates:
- Thursday, November 28 – Saturday, November 30
- Tuesday, December 24 (12PM) & Wednesday, Dec. 25
- Wednesday, January 1
- Monday, February 17

As a reminder, Lindenhurst Village Hall acts as a substation to the Lake Villa Post Office to provide convenient postal service during regular business hours. Holiday stamps are available.

Groot will collect Christmas trees as part of regular refuse and recycling pickup through January 13th. Trees must be placed curbside with all decorations removed.
SHOP LOCAL

SHOP • THINK • BUY • LOCAL is an initiative sponsored by the Lindenhurst-Lake Villa Chamber of Commerce. The Shop Local Program is designed to create an awareness of the shopping and service opportunities in the Lindenhurst and Lake Villa area, and sends the message that buying goods and services from local retailers and service providers supports the local economy, creates jobs locally, and improves the local tax base.

The Lindenhurst-Lake Villa Chamber of Commerce reminds us that shifting our holiday shopping dollars to locally owned stores, restaurants and entertainment establishments, keeps thousands of dollars in the Lindenhurst and Lake Villa communities.

Don’t forget to support our local establishments on Small Business Saturday, November 28th. You’ll help our community’s local living economy.

E.R.I.N. Volunteers Needed

The Village of Lindenhurst’s award-winning Elderly Residents In Need program could use your help with providing snow removal services. Volunteers are also needed for small home repairs, yard maintenance, in-person and/or phone well-being checks, or other such tasks. These Samaritans play a valuable role in the success of this worthwhile program.

If you are interested in learning more about the E.R.I.N. Program as a participant or volunteer, please contact the program coordinators at (847) 356-5400, or e-mail police@lindenhurstpd.org.

Ice and Ice Fishing Safety Tips

Remember in the winter, moving ice can damage docks. Damaged and un repaired docks are unsightly and unsafe. Docks and piers should be maintained in a manner so they remain safe and are not hazardous to the environment or individuals using the lakes.

Lindenhurst’s lakes have great year-round fishing. You can catch bluegill, largemouth bass, tiger muskie and channel catfish. Ordinances are the same for ice fishing as they are for warm weather fishing:

• Lake use is only for residents and their accompanied guests.
• No bait fish (minnows) allowed.
• Catch and release (except for bluegill – 25 per day.)

Heed these safety precautions when fishing on ice:

• Pay attention to the color of the ice; clear blue lake ice is the strongest.
• Cloudy, opaque ice holds the least amount of weight.
• Before going out onto the ice, walk along the shore in the area that you plan to fish to check for open water areas and areas of thin ice.
• Wear a personal flotation device.
• Always travel with others, preferably experienced ice fishermen.

For more information on all Village programs, please contact Village Hall at (847) 356-8252.

Answer: Yes - by adding jobs, sales tax revenue, and local development.